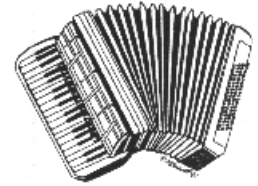


# INTRODUCTION

Thesis Statement + Projected Plan = Introduction



A **thesis statement** is just like the topic sentence you write when you write a paragraph. Like a topic sentence, the purpose of a thesis statement is to identify the topic (the occasion - the reason for writing) and the position (your opinion - what you plan to prove or explain). This statement controls the rest of the paper.

A thesis statement:

- is the heart of the paper
- gives the main idea of an essay
- contains key words and ideas that indicate the focus of the essay.
- presents a general idea that will be supported by reasons, details, or facts in the essay.
- might be called your position, assertion, premise, or controlling statement.



*Example:* Although Charles Lindbergh is sometimes called “Lucky Lindy,” no one would dare refer to his 1926 flight across the Atlantic as a feat of luck.

The **projected plan** presents the main ideas that will be addressed in the essay.

*Example:* His successful flight was clearly due to extensive planning, talent as a pilot, and raw courage.

An implied projected plan means the main ideas to be addressed in the essay are not stated. A number word, however, alerts the reader.

*Example:* His successful flight was clearly due to three mains factors.



Thesis Statement + Projected Plan = Introduction

Although Charles Lindbergh is sometimes called “Lucky Lindy,” no one would dare refer to his 1926 flight across the Atlantic as a feat of luck. His successful flight was clearly due to extensive planning, talent as a pilot, and raw courage.

